Definition of have

had \(\cdot\) had, (h\(\ddot{a}\)d, d\(\ddot{a}\); having \(\cdot\) ha-vi\(\ddot{ng}\); has \(\cdot\) h\(\ddot{a}\), (h\(\ddot{a}\)z, z, s; in "has to" meaning "must" usually 'haf\(\ddot{a}\)"

**transitive verb**

1. a: to hold or maintain as a possession, privilege, or entitlement • they have a new car • I have my rights
   b: to hold in one's use, service, regard, or at one's disposal • the group will have enough tickets for everyone • we don't have time to stay
   c: to hold, include, or contain as a part or whole • the car has power brakes • April has 30 days

2. to feel obligation in regard to —usually used with an infinitive with to • we have things to do • have a deadline to meet

3. to stand in a certain relationship to • has three fine children • we will have the wind at our backs

4. a: to acquire or get possession of • OBTAIN • these shoes are the best to be had
   b: RECEIVE • She asked if he had any news.
   c: ACCEPT • so burnt no one would have a piece; specifically: to accept in marriage • could find no one who would have him
   d: to copulate with • claims to have had many women

5. a: to be marked or characterized by (a quality, attribute, or faculty) • both have red hair
   b: have a way with words
   c: USE, EXERCISE • have mercy on us

6. a: to experience especially by submitting to, undergoing, or suffering • I have a cold
   b: to make the effort to perform (an action) or engage in (an activity) • have a look at that cut
   c: to entertain in the mind • have an opinion

7. a: to cause or command to do something —used with the infinitive without to • have the children stay
   b: to cause to be in a certain place or state • has people around at all times

8. ALLOW • we'll have no more of that

9. to be competent in • has only a little French

10. a: to hold in a position of disadvantage or certain defeat • we have him now
    b: to take advantage of • TRICK, FOOL • been had by a partner

11. BEAR 3a • have a baby

12. to partake of • have dinner • have a piece

13. BRIEFS, SUBORN • can be had for a price

**auxiliary verb**

1. —used with the past participle to form the present perfect, past perfect, or future perfect • has gone home • had already eaten • will have finished dinner by then

2. to be compelled, obliged, or required —used with an infinitive with to or to alone • we had to go • do what you have to • it has to be said

—had better or had best
   • would be wise to • had better go to bed

—have at
to go at or deal with: **ATTACK** • like two boxers **having** at each other

— **have coming**
• to deserve or merit what one gets, benefits by, or suffers • he **had** that coming

— **have done**
• **FINISH,** **STOP** • wish you would have done before I go mad

— **have done with**
• to bring to an end; have no further concern with • let us have done with name-calling

— **have had it**
1 • to have had or have done all one is going to be allowed to • He’s been cheating me for years but now he’s **had** it.
2 • to have experienced, endured, or suffered all one can • Her old beater has finally **had** it.

— **have it**
• **ASSERT,** **CLAIM** • rumor has it that he was drunk

— **have it in for**
• to intend to do harm to

— **have it out**
• to settle a matter of contention by discussion or a fight • thinks they just need to have it out

— **have none of**
• to refuse to have anything to do with • We will have none of that.

— **have one’s eye on**
1 a • to look at
   b • to watch constantly and attentively
2 • to have as an objective • has her eye on a little cottage in the country

— **have to do with**
1 • to deal with
   • the story **has to do with** real people —Alice M. Jordan
2 • to have a specified relationship with or effect on
   • the size of the brain **has nothing to do with** intelligence —Ruth Benedict

See have defined for English-language learners
See have defined for kids

**Examples of HAVE In a Sentence**

Do they have a new car?

You can have it until I get back.

She has a red bike, and I have a blue one.

She got another part-time job and now she **has** two jobs.

I’m looking for the newspaper. Do you have it?

He **had** the newspaper right in his hand.

I used to have a necklace like that, but I lost it.

She used to share a room with her sister, but now she **has** her own room.

**Have** they got a new car?

We’ve got things to do.